Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the second paragraph of Page 10 with the following amended paragraph:

A GPRS-capable MT 55 must first perform an attach procedure prior to accessing a packet data network. In general terms, the attach procedure is initiated by transmission of an Attach Request message to SGSN 21 servicing MT 55. In the present illustrative example, MT 55 is currently located within a cell provided by BSS 41. SGSN 21 is connected to BSS 41 by a communication channel and thus is responsible for providing GPRS services to MT 55. SGSN 21 then identifies and authenticates MT 55 after which an Update Location message is transmitted to HLR 71. Authentication of MT 55 may include interrogation by SGSN 21 of various modules in SS 6 maintaining HLR 71 assigned to MT 55, for example SGSN 21 may interrogate AUC 82 and/or EIR 86. Upon successful authentication of MT 55 by SGSN 21, the subscriber profile (or a portion thereof) maintained in HLR 71 is copied to SGSN 21 and assigns a packet temporary mobile subscriber identify (P-TMSI) is assigned to MT 55. A location update may be provided to HLR 71 by SGSN 21 and an acknowledgment of the location update may then be transmitted to SGSN 21 by HLR 71 as well.

Please replace the last paragraph that begins on Page 12 and that continues to Page 13 with the following amended paragraph:

In FIG. 3, [[the]]there is shown a simplified illustration of a network node that may be implemented as a GGSN 30, an access router, or another network node according to an embodiment of the invention. GGSN 30 may include one or more interface bays 310A and 310B each including one or more interface boards 310A.sub.1-310A.sub.N and 310B.sub.1-310B.sub.N, such as E1, T1, ATM, Ethernet or other network interface boards. A central processing unit 320, such as a SPARC microprocessor, a PowerPC microprocessor, and/or another central processing unit, may be included in GGSN 30 and may be coupled to interface bays 310A and 310B, a general processing bay 330 that may include one or more general processing boards 330A-330N, a memory bank 340, a power source 350 that may be coupled to any of the subsystems of GGSN 30, a switching system 360, and/or another core and/or GPRS

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support node subsystem. One or more general processing boards 330A-330N may be responsible for servicing core functions, such as execution of node management software, providing interfaces for various protocols for allowing communications with external nodes, execution of operation and maintenance applications and/or other core applications. Additionally, one or more general processing boards 330A-330N may support data application subsystems, such as context control subsystems that manage individual data sessions, a visitor register subsystem that incorporates VLR functionality into a GPRS support node, a network access subsystem, and/or other subsystems that facilitate access and provisioning of data communications with mobile devices.